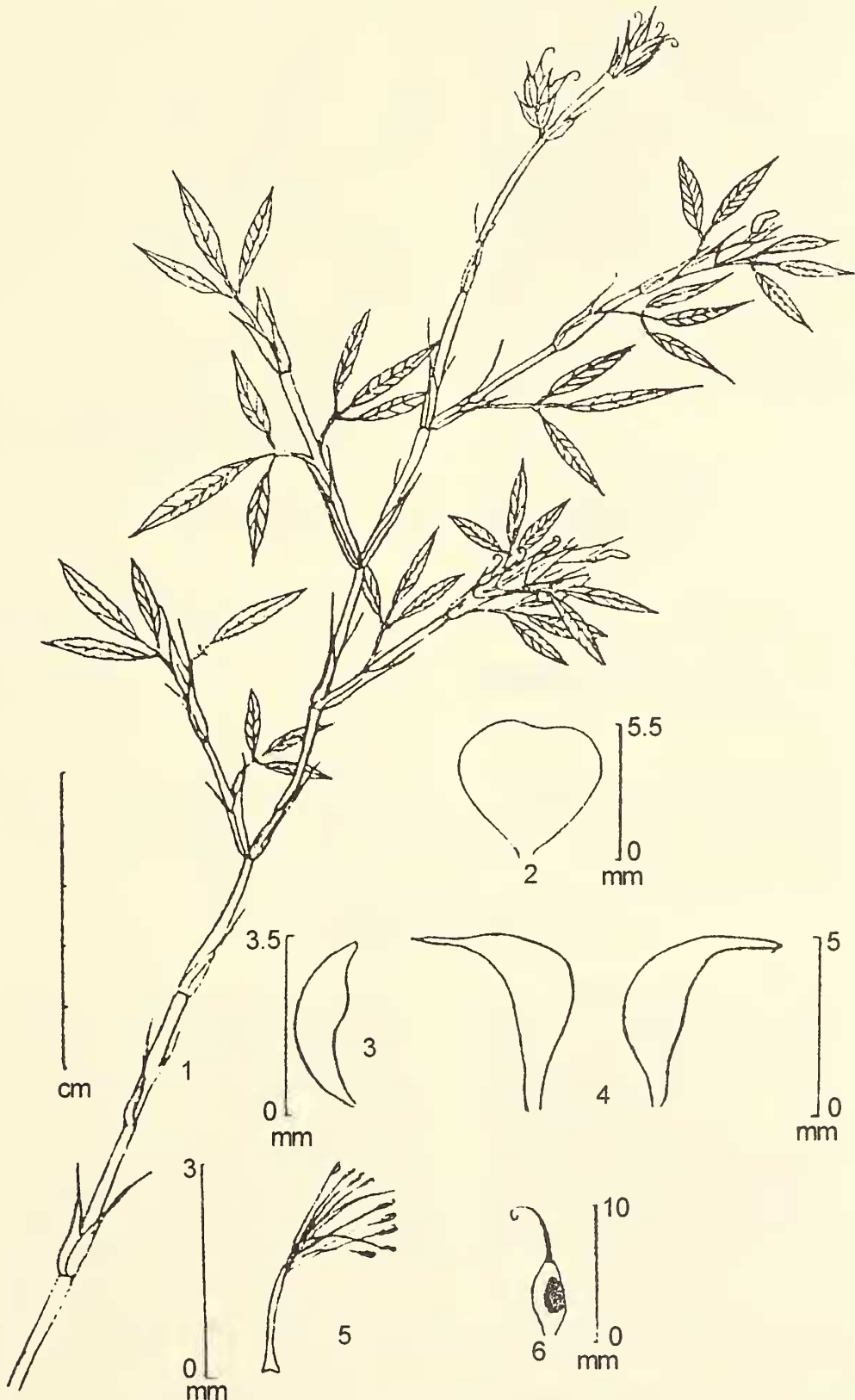


41. *STYLOSANTHES HAMATUS* (LINN.) TAUB. (PAPILIONACEAE),
A NEW RECORD TO THE FLORA OF GUJARAT

(With seven text-figures)

While investigating the flora of the Barda Hills and their surroundings, an interesting species of *Stylosanthes* was observed near

Vijarkhi (Jamnagar) and Ranakandorna (Ranavav) along agricultural fields and roadsides. After critical study, the specimen was



Figs 1-7: *Stylosanthes hamatus* (Linn.) Taub., 1. A flowering twig, 2. Standard petal, 3. Vexillum (wing petal), 4. Keel petal, 5. Gynophore slightly emerging out of androecium sheath, 6. Pod

identified as *Stylosanthes hamatus*, of which there is no published report from Gujarat. A brief description and illustration follows.

Stylosanthes hamatus (Linn.) Taub. in Verh.
Bot Brand 32: 22, 1980

Syn. *S. mucronata* Willd., Sp. Pl. 3: 1166, 1802; Beddome, Icon., Pl. Ind. Orient. t. 294, 1871; Baker in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 2: 148, 1876; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bombay 1: 356, 1903; Talbot, Trees Bombay 69, 1902. *S. fruticosa* (Retz.) Alston in Trimen., Handb. Fl. Ceylon 6 suppl. 77, 1931; Nootboom in Reinwardtia 5: 449, 1961; Verdcort in Kew Bull. 24: 59, 1970. *Arachis fruticosa* Retz, Obs. Bot. 5: 26, 1788. *Hedysarum hamatus* (Linn.) Taub., Syst. Veg. Ed. 10, 1170, 1759 (pro parte, pro typus); Burm. F., Fl. Ind. 167, 1768.

A much branched, low, diffuse, perennial undershrub. Branches terete, stiff, ascending, more or less hairy. Leaves trifoliate, stipules scarious, strongly nerved, adnate to the petiole for half their length, terminating above in 2 spreading teeth. Leaflet 10-18 mm long, elliptic-oblong 4 by 20 mm, or lanceolate, coriaceous,

pale green, pubescent on lower surface. Terminal leaflet a little larger than lateral ones, all acute and mucronate at the apex, glabrous above, slightly pubescent, strongly nerved, base subacute; lateral leaflets subsessile, the terminal with a petiole about 4-5 mm long. Flowers solitary or few in sessile terminal heads in the axils of leaf-like stipulate bracts. Bracts persistent, striated, pubescent. Calyx tubular; tube filiform 4-6 mm long, membranous, the upper connate lobes ciliate at the apex. Corolla yellowish-orange 7-9 mm long. Pods flattened, 10-15 mm long, 1-2 jointed, very short, concealed by the persistent bracts, hooked at the apex with the persistent base of the style, joints pubescent with raised veins.

Fl & Fr.: September-February

Present status: Rare

Specimen examined: PSN 221

April 22, 2000

P.S. NAGAR

S.M. PANDYA

Department of Biosciences,
Saurashtra University,
Rajkot 360 005,
Gujarat, India.

42. UNUSUAL NUMBER OF CARPELS AND FERTILE STAMENS IN FLOWERS OF *BAUHINIA VARIEGATA* L., LEGUMINOSAE: CAESALPINIOIDEAE

(With one text-figure)

My earlier observation on the unusual occurrence of two free carpels in the flowers of *Bauhinia variegata* L. in a collection from Myanmar was included in the publication of Larsen and Larsen in Fl. Males. 12(2): 414. 1996.

Recently, I have again come across a flower of *B. variegata* with two free carpels. The flower was found lying on the ground below a tree of this species on the Prain mound in Division 16 of the Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah. This is the third of six trees of *B. variegata*, counted anti-clockwise from that of a *B. racemosa* Lam.

tree on the margin of the circular mound.

In the flower observed, the two free carpels are normal in size, whereas in the collection from Myanmar (Sittang, 8.ii.1905, Coll. ?, herb. acc. no. 137613 - CAL), one flower has two free carpels of normal size and the other two flowers have a normal and a reduced size carpel.

It may be mentioned here that after collecting the flower with two free carpels, I have examined a number of flowers from all the six trees, but all of them either have normal or reduced size carpel.